



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application of Edward T. Buford, III

Serial No: 09/912,692

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Group Art Unit: 3747

Filed: 7/26/2001

FEB 09 2004

Examiner: R. Chin

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20321

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Group 3700

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicant, through counsel, respectfully requests that the Applicant's Response to First Office Action (First Amendment) mailed and faxed on January 23, 2004 be accepted for filing. A check to cover the cost of the late filing within the first month pursuant to 1.17(a)(1) of a response is enclosed.

As reason therefor, Applicant states that counsel for the applicant and applicant were both involved in other matters which precluded the preparation and filing of a timely response to the Office Action. In addition, the response could not have been filed at an earlier time due to the press of the holiday season.